

PATENT SPECIFICATION



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739,899

Date of Application and filing Complete Specification: Aug. 3, 1954.

No. 22467/54.

Complete Specification Published: Nov. 2, 1955.

Index at acceptance:—Class 18, A8C1(A:C:X), A8E.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in a Divisible Package

We, KRAFT FOODS COMPANY, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America, whose post office address is 500 Peshtigo Court, City of Chicago, County of Cook, State of Illinois, United States of America, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:

This invention relates to a devisable package and particularly, although not exclusively, to a package for packaging products such as butter, lard, margarine and the like. Products of the character indicate are quite commonly enclosed in packages containing four separately wrapped units of a quarter of a pound each to produce a one pound package. The quarter pound units are removed one by one as required from the package and this successively leaves a package which is only three-quarter, one-half, and finally one-quarter full while the overall size of the package remains constant. Hence, the storage of a quarter of a pound of margarine or other product in a home freezer or refrigerator commonly takes up as much space as the storage of a full pound. With the constantly growing use of frozen food products, the waste of space in refrigerators or freezers in the manner indicated, is becoming increasingly objectionable.

In many instances, purchasers would prefer to purchase only one-half pound of margarine or other product in order to avoid the use of excessive refrigerator space and also to avoid spoilage of the product in the event that the product is used to such a slight extent that even a slight quantity will last such a long time that there is danger of spoilage even though it is kept under refrigeration. There may also be other reasons for purchasing certain products in units of less than one pound.

According to the present invention the package may be made to initially contain any

[Price 3s. 0d.]

selected quantity of the merchandise, say one pound, in accordance with present conventional practice, but which package may readily be divided into smaller units, thereby to permit purchasers to elect whether or not to purchase a full pound or a smaller quantity, and also to facilitate reduction in the size of the overall package as the content of the package is used, thereby to avoid the occupancy of an excessive amount of refrigerator or freezer space; as for example, by a one pound package when half its contents are removed. Additionally, the package provides full enclosure for the contents of each reduced or separable unit.

The invention consists in a divisible package of rectilinear form comprising a main wall, a complementary wall and a pair of end walls forming exterior walls of the package, each of the end walls having a scored line which facilitates severance of such end wall, the main wall also having a scored line which traverses such main wall and connects with the scored lines in the end walls, the complementary wall being formed of a pair of separate panels having mutually adjacent edges substantially paralleling the scored line in the main wall and having extensions hingedly connected to such mutually adjacent edges and extending inwardly of the package to provide a two-ply dividing wall, the package being separable along the scored lines into a pair of separate fully closed rectilinear containers.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank from which the package according to the invention is made;

Figure 2 is a perspective view illustrating a completed package except that the end closure at one end is shown in a partially open condition;

Figure 3 is a view in cross section on the line 3--3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a perspective view illustrating the completed package of Figure 2 in a folded

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condition to change the shelf space requirements of the package;

Figure 5 is a cross section on the line 5---5 of Figure 4;

5 Figure 6 is a perspective of one unit of the package as it appears when separated from another unit thereof.

The package of the invention is made from a blank (Figure 1) which comprises a main wall having panels 1 and 2 which are joined edge to edge, as indicated at 3 along a line in which the material of the blank is weakened by any suitable form of scoring. Such scoring may, for example, be the conventional perforated scoring or it may be continuous cut scoring in which the thickness of the blank is cut part way through to weaken the blank sufficiently to permit the blank to be torn apart along the scored line.

20 The blank also embodies a complementary wall having panels 4 and 5 which are complementary to the main panels 1 and 2, the complementary panels 4 and 5 having dimensions corresponding to those of the main panels 1 and 2. The panel 4 has associated with it an extension 6 and a side wall panel 7 which are foldably or hingedly connected to the opposite side edges of the panel 4, the side wall panel 7 being also hingedly connected along a fold line 8 to the adjacent edge of the main panel 1.

The complementary panel 5 has associated with it a side wall panel 9 and an extension 10 which are foldably or hingedly connected to the opposite side edges of the panel 5, the side wall panel 9 being also foldably connected as indicated at 11 to the adjacent side edge of the main panel 2. The hinged connections between extension 6 and the side wall panel 7 and the opposite edges of the complementary panel 4, and the hinged connections between the side wall panel 9 and the extension 10 and the opposite side edges of the complementary panel 5 are designated 12.

45 As best shown in Figure 3, the various panels above referred to are adapted to be folded relative to the main panels 1 and 2 and relative to each other to provide a pair of container cells 13 and 14 which

tions of the score line 3 which integrally but separably unites the main wall panels 1 and 2. The end wall panels 16 are extended to provide tuck flaps 17, these tuck flaps being foldably connected to the end wall panels 16 along suitable crease or fold lines 18, the end wall panels 16 themselves being foldably connected by suitable hinge lines 19 to the ends of the main panels.

After the tongues 15 are folded inwardly as shown at Figure 2, the joined end wall panels 16, 16 at both ends of the container are folded into overlying relation to the tongues 15 and the tuck flaps 17 are inserted into the carton between the inside faces of the main panels 4 and 5 and the adjacent edges of the tongues 15. As shown, the tuck flaps have their mutually adjacent ends separated by a slit (or by a narrow space if desired) so that said tuck flaps are freely insertable into the respective cell ends as aforesaid.

Since the end wall panels 16, 16 at opposite ends of the container are integrally joined along the lines 3a, it will be seen that the package in the flat form represented in Figures 2 and 3 will be rigidly held in that form. However, by breaking the score lines 3a, folding of the package on itself along the score line 3 will be permitted to convert the flat package of Figures 2 and 3 to the more conventional form of brick type package represented in Figures 4 and 5. Furthermore, if a customer wishes to purchase only one half a package, the package may be separated into two sections by tearing the score line 3, thereby producing a half package such as represented in Figure 6.

Plastic food products such as margarine, butter, lard and perhaps others, are usually enclosed in a suitable moisture-proofed carton in wrapped units; for example, one-quarter pound units such as indicated at 18, these units being individually wrapped in a suitable grease-proofing paper, metal foil or the like. Any one of the units may, of course be removed from the container and when one of the cells of the container is emptied that cell may be completely separated from the other one so as to reduce the size of the package.

and 2 resulting from separations of the two halves along score line 3.

5 The blank required is of simple rectilinear form and may be produced on conventional box making equipment. But little waste is occasioned in cutting the blank from sheets of the selected material, usually a waxed paper board stock when the container is to be used for packaging butter, margarine, and like oily products.

10 What we claim is:—

1. A divisible package of rectilinear form comprising a main wall, a complementary wall and a pair of end walls forming exterior walls of the package, each of the end walls having a scored line which facilitates severance of such end wall, the main wall also having a scored line which traverses such main wall and connects with the scored lines in the end walls, the complementary wall being

formed of a pair of separate panels having mutually adjacent edges substantially paralleling the scored line in the main wall and having extensions hingedly connected to such mutually adjacent edges and extending inwardly of the package to provide a two-ply dividing wall, the package being separable along the scored lines into a pair of separate fully closed rectilinear containers.

2. Package according to claim 1 in which the inward extensions of the complementary wall are provided with tongues extending in overlapping relation to the end walls, such end walls having tuck flaps insertable into the ends of the containers.

3. A divisible package substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated by the accompanying drawings.

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Leamington Spa: Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by the Courier Press.—1955.
Published at The Patent Office, 25, Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2, from which copies may be obtained.

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Fig. 1.

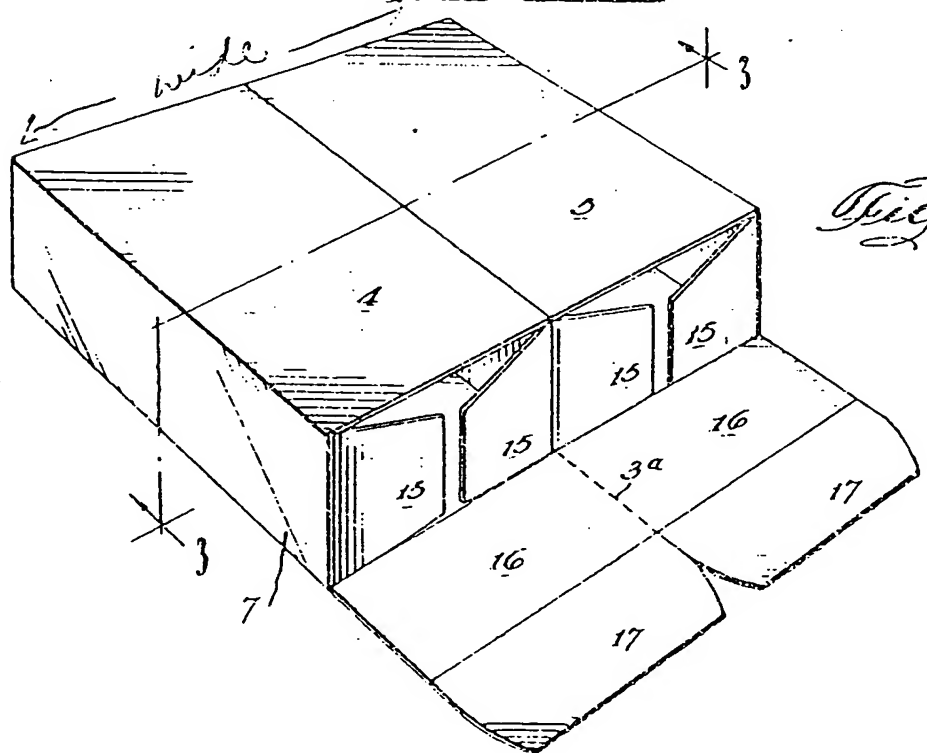
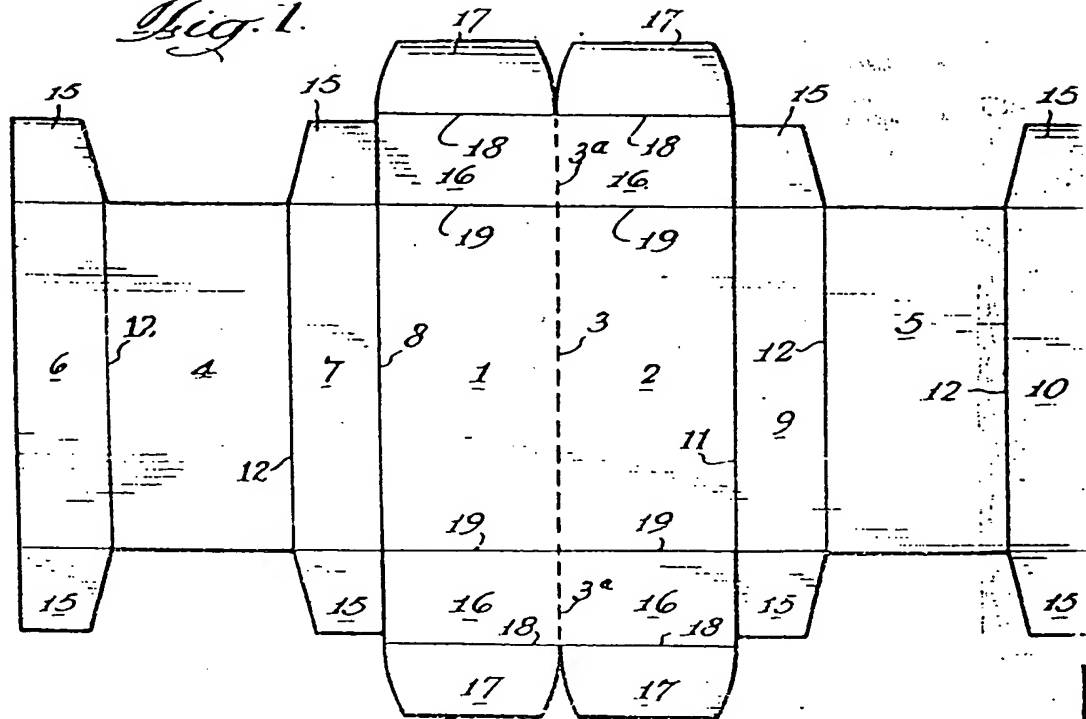


Fig. 2.

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2 SHEETS
This drawing is a reproduction of
the Original on a reduced scale.
SHEETS 1 & 2

Fig. 3.

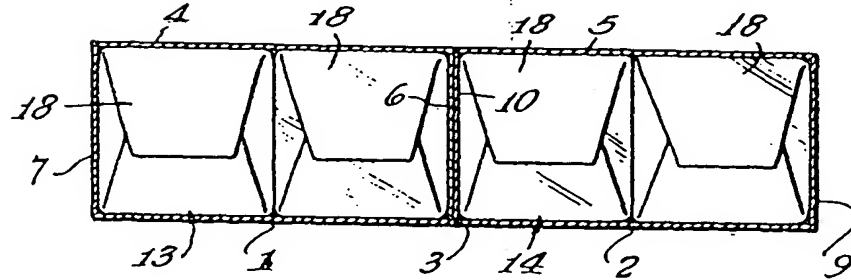


Fig. 5.

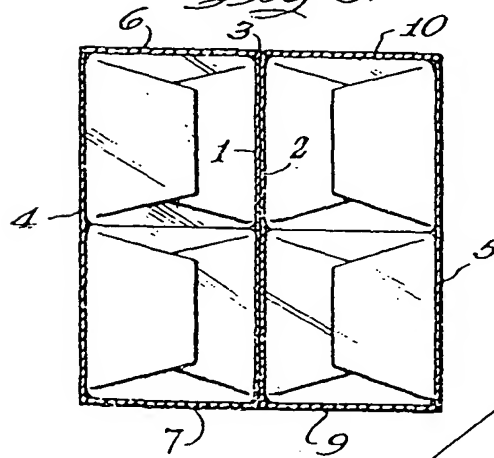


Fig. 4.

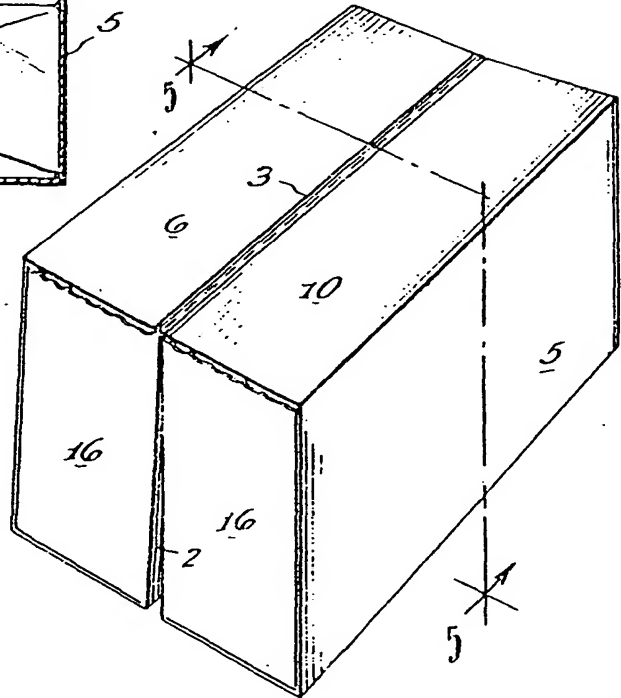


Fig. 6.

